

Message Text

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21

ACTION SSM-05

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NSAE-00 AID-05 DODE-00 OC-05 CCO-00 MED-03 /062 W

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P R 121408Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 162

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STATE FOR SSM

CAIRO PASS TO THORNE

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR EG IS AMED

SUBJ: MEMCON (SFM PUBLIC HEALTH)

1. ON FEB 10, 1976 SCHILL AND AN E-SYSTEMS PARA MEDIC ATTENDED AN IDF/PREVENTATIVE MEDICINE BRIEFING IN TEL AVIV. DURING THAT BRIEFING A NUMBER OF GENERAL QUESTIONS WERE RAISED AND DISCUSSED AS RELATED TO CAMP SANITATION AND PERSONNEL HEALTH AND HYGIENE OF SFM EMPLOYEES. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS DESCRIPTIVE OF THE ANSWERS GIVEN BY THE IDF PREVENTATIVE MEDICINE OFFICERS:

A. CONTROL OF FLIES AND OTHER ANNOYING INSECTS: IDF INDICATED THAT THE ANNOYING INSECTS WE ARE ENCOUNTERING IN THE SINAI AREA ARE OF THE ORDINARY HOUSE FLY TYPE (MUSCUS DOMESTICUS). IDF SUGGESTS (1) WE IDENTIFY A SUITABLE AREA APPSORIMATELY THREE KILOMETERS DOWN WIND FROM THE MAIN BASE TO SERVE AS A REFUSE DISPOSAL AREA. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT SFM BULLDOZE AN AREA DEEP ENOUGH AND LARGE ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE OUR REFUSE OVER A PERIOD OF MONTHS. FOLLOWING THE DUMPING OF REFUSE IT SHOULD BE TOPPED OVER WITH DIRT. IT WAS FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT THE BURNING OF REFUSE NOT BE EMPLOYED, AS MUCH OF WHAT IS THROWN AWAY IS DAMP AND THEREFORE NOT SUBJECT TO THOROUGH BURNING. FOR THE MAIN
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CAMP IMMEDIATE AREA, IDF SUGGESTS THAT WE EMPLOY AN ORGANIC

PHOSPHATE TYPE INSECTICIDE BY THE COMMON NAME OF ROGOR-40. IT WAS INDICATED THAT THIS COMPOUND SHOULD BE USED ON THE OUTSIDE OF BUILDINGS AROUND LATRINES AND OTHER SUSPECTED FLY BREEDING AREAS. IT SHOULD NOT BE USED INSIDE OF BUILDINGS. (2) INSIDE DWELLINGS; THE IDF INDICATES THEY DO NOT TAKE ANY SPECIAL MEASURES OTHER THAN SCREENS ON WINDOWS AND DOORS OF ALL INHABITED BUILDINGS. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE TIME THE INITIAL SFM TEMPORARY STRUCTURES ARE COMPLETE AND ENCLOSED, THE FLY PROBLEMS INSIDE WILL DIMINISH CONSIDERABLE AND THEREFORE SHOULD NOT BE AS MUCH A PROBLEM AS NOW.

(3) IDF INDICATED THAT THE SFM BASE CAMP AREA IS NOT IN A MALARIA ENDEMIC AREA. IDF FORCES IN THE AREA DO NOT TAKE ANY CHEMOPROFOLAXIS AS A GUARD AGAINST MALARIA CARRYING MOSQUITOS.

(4) IDF INDICATED THAT THEY HAVE ENCOUNTERED INFESTATIONS OF RATS AND OTHER SMALL RODENTS IN THE SINAI AND THAT BOTH THE RATTUS-RATTUSHOND RATTUS-NORVIGICUS HAVE BEEN SEEN IN AND AROUND THE CAMPS. IDF STATED THAT THEY HAVE NOT HAD ANY CASES OF PLAGUE, RAT BIE FEVER, OR MURINE TYPHUS FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. THEY SUGGEST THAT WE MAINTAIN THE USUAL SANITARY PRACTICES AS WELL AS USE RODENTICIDES ANTI-COAGULANT TYPES) FOR RAT CONTROL.

(5) RABIES HAS NOT BEEN A PROBLEM FOR IDF FORCES LOCATED INTEH SINAI, AND THEY DO NOT IMMUNIZE ROUTINELY FOR RABIES. THEY ARE CURRENTLY GIVING POST-EXPOSURE IMMUNIZATIONS FOR RABIES, ONLY AS NECESSARY.

B. PERSONNEL HYGIENE: THE IDF SUGGESTS THAT EMPLOYEES ASSIGNED TO THE SINAI FIELD MISSION BE BRIEFED ON THE USE OF PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AGAINST HARMFUL RAYS FROM THE SUN. IDF HAS FOUND THAT AMONG THEIR FORCES A TWO HOUR DIRECT EXPOSURE TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY HAD A SUN TAN CAN BE VERY HARMFUL AND THAT OFFICIALLY IDF MILITARY PERSONNEL ARE CAUTIONED TO WEAR TROUSERS TUCKED IN BOOTS, LONG SLEEVE SHIRTS, AND HATS FOR PROTECTION FROM THE SUN. IN ADDITION , IDF SUGGESTS THAT DUST GOGGLES BE WORN AND SKIN CREAMS AND OTHER MOISTURIZING LOTIONS BE USED AS NECESSARY.

C. ON FEB 17,1976, IF MEDICAL SERVICES INCLUDING PREVENTITIVE MEDICINE UNIT AND CLINICAL MEDICINE UNIT WILL HAVE A MEETING TO DISCUSS A DISPENSARY EQUIPMENT LIST, ISAEI DRUG EQUIVALENCES FOR AMERICAN TYPE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AND OTHER ITEMS THEY FEEL WILL UNCLASSIFIED

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BE OF INTEREST TO THE SINAI FIELD MISSION. WE WILL BE IN RECEIPT OF THEIR FINDINGS ON ABOUT FEB 19. THOSE FINDINGS WILL BE POUCHED TO SINAI FIELD MISSION AND SSM, WASHINGTON. DUNNIGAN

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